BENKEI IN NEW YORK

PERFECT COLLECTION

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STORY BY JINPACHI MORI ART BY JIRO TANIGUCHI

PULP GRAPHIC NOVEL

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JINPACHI MORI
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This volume contains GENKEI IN NEW YORK installments from PULP Vol. 4 No. 7 through Vol. 5, No. 1 in their entirety.

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PULP GRAPHIC NOVELS TO DATE

BAKUNE YUUNG VOL. 1

BANANA FISH VOL. 1
BANANA FISH VOL. 2
BANANA FISH VOL. 3
BANANA FISH VOL. 4

BLACK & WHITE VOL. 1
BLACK & WHITE VOL. 2
BLACK & WHITE VOL. 3

DANCE TILL TOMORROW VOL. 1
DANCE TILL TOMORROW VOL. 2
DANCE TILL TOMORROW VOL. 3
DANCE TILL TOMORROW VOL. 4

HEARTBROKEN ANGELS VOL. 1
HEARTBROKEN ANGELS VOL. 2 (May 2001)

STRAIN VOL. 1
STRAIN VOL. 2
STRAIN VOL. 3
STRAIN VOL. 4

VOYEUR
VOYEURS INC VOL. 1
VOYEURS INC VOL. 2

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Chapter 1: HAGGIS

KRAKK!

FSH
ゴゴゴ
BRIDA

TIK
TIK
.....
FOO
FLUSH

PRETTY UNPLEASANT, EH?
WELL...
I SHOULDN'T COMPLAIN.
...?
.....
I ASKED FOR THIS RAIN AND THUNDER.
HA HA.
I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WERE STILL INDIANS IN MANHATTAN.
HMM. YOU'RE PRETTY HUMOROUS FOR ONE.
NOT REALLY.
I'M JAPANESE.
YOU DON'T LIKE THE RAIN?
BUT IT'LL STOP SOON

I LIKE RAIN.
ESPECIALLY WHEN IT THUNDERS.
.....
FWIK
FWIK
IT MAKES THIS TASTE BETTER.
FWIK
CARE TO JOIN ME?
HMM.
I THOUGHT IT'D BE A CHEAP BLEND, BUT THIS IS MALT SCOTCH.
WOW
SPEY-SIDE.
CRAGGANMORE
THAT'S RIGHT.

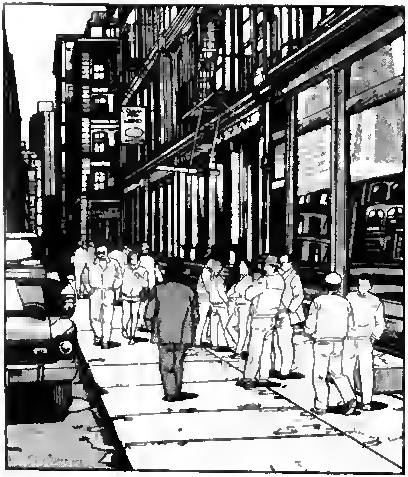
DAMN!
CLUD
CRAPPY RENTAL CAR!

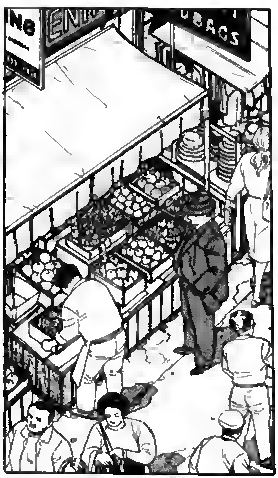
HM?
FOO
FWIP FWIP
FWIP FWIP
CHAK!
SCRICH!

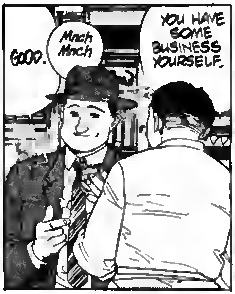
PIER
IT STOPPED RAINING
NERS
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
BEN-KEI?
BENKEI.
UH-HUH.
I RUN A BASEMENT BAR NO ONE GOES TO IN THE VILLAGE
YOU SERVE THIS KIND OF WHISKEY THERE?
WE HAVE ANYTHING YOU'D WANT.
THAT'S GREAT.
YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?
WELL, I KNOW MY CUSTOMERS.
.....
I SHARED A DRINK WITH YOU.
I FIGURE YOU'LL BRING ME BUSINESS.
YOU'RE A SMART BUSINESS-MAN.

GIVE ME A CALL WHEN YOU'RE IN THE VILLAGE.
I'LL MEET YOU.
BEEP!
PHONE
WHY?
I DON'T HAVE A SIGN.
KLAK

TASTE CAN NEVER ESCAPE THE HELL OF MEMORY






GOOD.
Much Much
YOU HAVE SOME BUSINESS YOURSELF.

HOW'S BUSINESS ?
GOOD.
ONLY FIVE STOLEN APPLES.
chop

THAT ITALIAN'S BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.
FWIK

BENKEI, WE ALREADY HAVE BUYERS...
THE ORGANIZATION STEALS A VAN GOGH OR A PICASSO
WE MAKE FORGERIES AND SELL THEM TO MODERATELY WEALTHY COLLECTORS.
IF WE COVER OUR TRACKS IT'S A GOOD BUSINESS.
BUT
TIMING IS OF CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE.

ONCE WE AGREE ON A DEAL.
..IT'S OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO DELIVER THE PRODUCT TO OUR CLIENTS WHILE THEY'RE STILL DROOLING.
YOU SOUND LIKE YOU RUN A PIZZA JOINT.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?
SELLING PIZZAS IS HOW I LEARNED EVERYTHING ABOUT NEW YORK
I'LL MEET THE DEAD-LINE.
THAT'S NOT THE POINT.
YOU SHOULDN'T BE IN THAT DANGEROUS LINE OF BUSINESS.
THIS IS GOOD WORK.
I'M A MULTI-BUSINESS-MAN
AEEE!
A TOKEN OF OUR FRIEND-SHIP?
I JUST DON'T WANT YOU TO HURT YOUR HANDS
THEN AT LEAST CARRY THIS.

SO YOU DECIDED TO COME.
I COULDN'T FORGET THE TASTE OF THAT WHISKEY.
THERE AREN'T THAT MANY OCCASIONS WHEN ONE REALLY NEEDS A DRINK.
YOU'RE A PHILOSOPHER
I BECAME ONE WHEN I STARE TOO MUCH AT SOMEONE DRINKING.
.....
LET'S GO.

I'VE NEVER BEEN TO SUCH A STRANGE BAR.
THERE'S NO JUKE-BOX.
AND NO CHATTING.
BUT WE HAVE THE DRINKS YOU NEED.
LONG TIME SINCE I HAD A DRINK LIKE THIS.
LAST TIME WAS IN SCOTLAND.
THAT SO?
IN 1968.
I WAS TWENTY YEARS OLD.
GOOD TRIP?
YOU KIDDING ?
THE VIETNAM WAR WAS AT ITS PEAK.
I WENT TO DODGE THE DRAFT.
UNDER MY FATHER'S ORDERS.
.....
GULK
THAT'S WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE
YOU SHOULDN'T BE ASHAMED OF IT.
WHAT WOULD YOU KNOW? YOU'RE JAPANESE.

THINGS THAT HAPPEN IN AMERICA ALSO HAPPEN IN JAPAN.
PEOPLE IN NEW YORK ARE TOO CONSCIOUS OF RACE
I'M A SECOND-RATE NEIL SIMON.
HA HA HA
HUH
YOU'RE RIGHT.
WERE YOU A CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR?
YOU KIDDING?
I JUST DIDN'T WANT TO DIE.
THAT'S STRAIGHTFORWARD.
BUT...
YOU COULDN'T HAVE DODGED THE DRAFT JUST BY TAKING A TRIP.
THAT'S RIGHT. I DIDN'T WANT TO D.E., BUT MY FATHER DIDN'T WANT TO BE DISGRACED BY A SON WHO DIDN'T GO.
PWIK
.....
AS YOU SAID, IT'S WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE.
HM.
TUG

"WE HAVE SOME BAD NEWS. YOUR DRAFT NOTICE HAS FINALLY ARRIVED. NEEDLESS TO SAY, YOUR MOTHER AND I HAVE BEEN DISTRESSED TO PUT IT MILDLY.
"I DON'T WANT TO LOSE MY SUCCESSOR. I WAS PLANNING ON HAVING YOU INHERIT MY BUSINESS TEN YEARS DOWN THE LINE.
"I HAVE A SOLUTION, THOUGH...
GET INJURED, BILL!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
MY CAR BROKE DOWN AND I NEED TO MAKE A PHONE CALL.
CAN YOU TAKE ME INTO TOWN?

'TAKE A TRIP TO SCOTLAND AND GET INTO AN ACCIDENT. THAT'LL SOLVE OUR PROBLEMS!
"GET INJURED, BILL."
GLUG
GLUG
WOULD YOU LIKE SOME HAGGIS?
...?
YOU HAVE HAGGIS?
I MADE IT.

TAK
WOW.
I'M IMPRESSED. YOU MUST BE A GOURMET CHEF.
IT'S SIMPLE.
YOU JUST STUFF SOME LIVER AND HEART INTO INTESTINES.
THIS IS THE ONLY DECENT THING TO EAT IN SCOTLAND.
SHACH SHACH
MACH MACH
MMM.
TASTES GOOD.
I USED GOOD INGREDIENTS.
IT BRINGS BACK A LOT OF MEMORIES.
THAT'S WHY I MADE IT.
WHAT?

CHK
TAK
TAK
I'LL HAVE THE SAME AS THIS GENTLE-MAN
SURE
.....
.....
TO OUR MEMORIES.

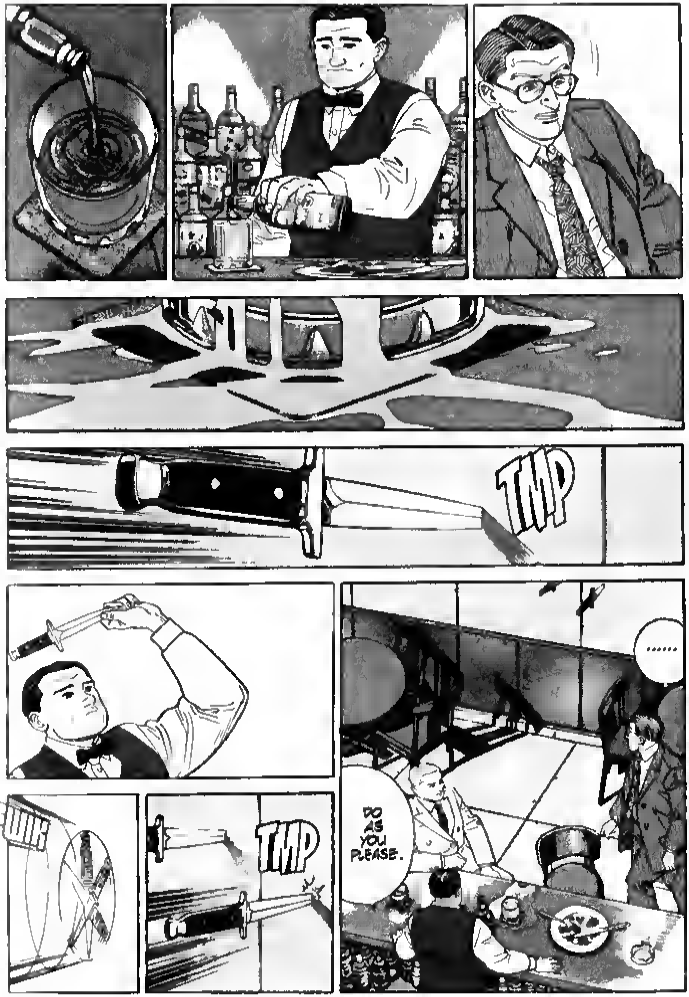
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
YOU MUST NOT HAVE FELT GOOD ABOUT...
AVOIDING WAR AND STILL KILLING SOMEONE.
.....
Scotch Whisky
12
NO!
THAT WAS AN ACCIDENT!
ARE YOU AMERICAN?
YES I'M FROM THE EAST COAST.

AMERICANS ARE LUCKY.
YOU BECAME INDEPENDENT FROM ENGLAND.
HMM. I SEE..
THE CULLODEN WAR STILL WEIGHS HEAVILY ON THE SCOTS, HUH?
THE MEN WHO FOUGHT IN THAT WAR WERE COURAGEOUS WARRIORS.
WHAT'S SO NOBLE ABOUT DYING?
WHISKEY DOESN'T SUIT A COWARD LIKE YOU.
IT'S SILLY TO DIE FOR A COUNTRY...
IT'S A BARBAROUS IDEA.

"BILL!"
VAAAROOOM!!
"GET INJURED!"
VAAAROOOM!!
VAAAROOOM!!
"BILL!"
"GET INJURED!"

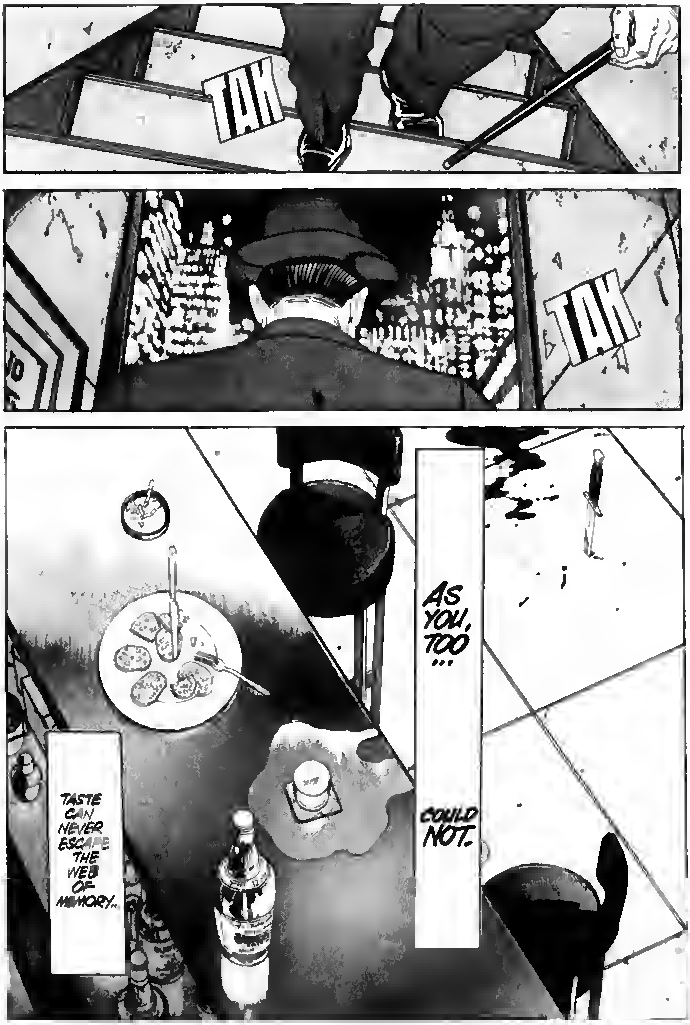
VRROOOM!!
SCREE
KRIK
SHRRGE

THAT WAS AN ACCIDENT!
THAT WOMAN LOST CONTROL OF THE WHEEL IN THE RAIN.
THANKS TO HER, I BROKE MY LEG.
THAT'S RIGHT THERE WAS SOME RISK.
WITH HEAD-ON COLLISIONS, THE CHANCES OF A REAR-SEAT PASSENGER DYING ARE LOW.
.....
LOOK AT THE GENTLEMAN NEXT TO YOU.
.....
I WAS SITTING IN THE FRONT PASSENGER'S SEAT.
!
TH-THAT CAN'T BE.
EVEN IF IT WERE TRUE, YOU WOULDN'T REMEMBER. YOU WERE A BABY. WHO'D BELIEVE YOU?
CLANG
WELL, THE WHISKEY'LL TELL THE TRUTH.


TMP
TMP
FWIP
DO AS YOU PLEASE.
.....

TUG
W-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WHO ARE YOU!?
A DEALER IN REVENGE.
IN JAPAN, WE CALL THIS "ADAUCHI," A VENDETTA.
TUG
DAMN IT!
FAK
huf
huf
THE GAME IS FAIR NOW.
THE HAGGIS YOU ATE WAS MADE OF

YOUR DAUGHTER'S HEART AND LIVER.
UR...
N-
NO!
URR
ARR
URRR
GLIG
huf
huf
huf


TAK
TAK
AS YOU, TOO ...
COULD NOT.
TASTE CAN NEVER ESCAPE THE WEB OF MEMORY...

"*Benkei in New York* is a short, sharp shock of manga noir." —Greg Rucka, author of *Batman* and *Whiteout*

"Diabolically well-told, occasionally harrowing, *Benkei* is better than 96% of the crime fiction coming out of America right now."

—Warren Ellis, author of *Planetary* and *Ministry of Space*

Manga doesn't get much more *noir* than this. Benkei is just another expatriate Japanese artist living in the Big Apple. Or so it appears. As these "diabolical hard-boiled stories" show, surfaces aren't always what they seem. Flashbacks delve into sordid, secret past lives, and old scores, long festering, emerge without warning, asking to be settled. And Benkei's secret? Maybe it's just that he's the only artist in town who isn't having fantasies of being a hitman-for-hire. He is one. Each self-contained episode in this complete *Benkei* collection is a tightly plotted, beautifully rendered, psychologically harrowing ride into the heart of urban darkness. Hard-boiled tales of revenge, rendered in the tight-lipped, fine-line style of Jiro Taniguchi, one of the creators of Viz's *Hotel Harbour View.*

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